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average export price for the five months ended November 30, 1897, was available, fifty show an increase over the average price for the fiscal year preceding, while sixty-four out of one hundred and three imported items show a similar increase." Yet silver was still falling.

DAVID KINLEY.

University of Illinois.

The Encyclopedia of Social Reform, including Political Economy, Political Science, Sociology and Statistics, covering Anarchism, Charities, Civil Service, Currency, Land and Legislation Reform, Penology, Socialism, Social Purity, Trades Unions, Woman Suffrage, etc. Edited by WM. D. P. BLISS, with the co-operation of many specialists. Pp. viii, 1439. Price, \$7.50. New York and London: Funk & Wagnalls Company, 1897.

This work undertakes to cover a wide field, and to meet the demand for a carefully edited and scholarly book of its kind which undoubtedly exists in the United States. We have in the English language the Palgrave "Dictionary of Political Economy," about to be completed with the issue of the third volume, but this covers a more limited field and is a somewhat bulkier work than the Bliss "Encyclopedia." In German there is the invaluable "*Handwörterbuch*" by Conrad and others, the eighth volume of which has just appeared. The "*Nouveau Dictionnaire*" in French is very conservative, but scholarly so far as it goes. It may seem unfair to compare Bliss' effusion with such works prepared at great expense by the ablest specialists who assume individually responsibility for the special parts of the work contributed by them. It would be unfair were it not for two facts: first, the claims of the Bliss "Encyclopedia" which are calculated to deceive the unsuspecting reader; and secondly, the fact that if we are true to any scholarly ideal at all we must admit that a brief treatment of the topics considered in this book in the present uncertain state of knowledge demands even greater pains, skill and scholarship than the longer monographs and paragraphs found in the larger dictionaries if the general reader is to be given *fair* impressions.

Nothing is lacking in the claims made by this "Encyclopedia" for its own trustworthiness. On the title-page we read that the co-operation of many specialists includes among others—then follows twenty-three names, at least twelve of which would carry great weight in any article for which definite responsibility was assumed. There are here, however, at the outset traces of the careless editing which characterizes the whole work. One of these names is misspelled on the title-page and again on page vi, though it appears

correctly as a signature to the single article contributed by that gentleman. In the list of contributors or revisers of articles, I note two misstatements concerning the positions occupied by the gentlemen in question. More serious, however, is the fact that the support which these names give the work is wholly misleading. At most they seem to have revised only a few articles and with few exceptions have contributed nothing for which they stand personally responsible. The articles thus signed and revised constitute but a fraction of one per cent of all the articles that appear in the volume. Yet we read in the preface that "the two main requisites of an encyclopedia are reliability and serviceableness in information," and that "the first of these requisites has been sought in this 'Encyclopedia' by having every article either written or revised by some specialist on each particular subject." Who are these specialists who have revised or written 99 per cent of the articles? Apparently not the names which are used upon the title-page to bolster up and advertise the book. Of that fact the character of most of the work is convincing proof.

The first errors to which I must call attention are mistakes of judgment on the part of the editor. There is no index which will serve as a general cross reference finding list to enable anyone to get at all the articles relating to any given topic. There are few cross references in the articles themselves or in the body of the book. Many articles are poorly indexed. For example, I looked for something on national workshops. There is no reference under national workshops, or the word workshops, to the fact that these are discussed under the very unusual term in English literature of "*ateliers nationaux*." A clue to this reference is found by reading the article on Louis Blanc. Under social settlements there is nothing at all to indicate that there is an article entitled Women's College Settlements under the letter W, and an article on University Settlements, neither of which articles contain any cross reference to the other. The term college settlement is indexed with a reference to women's college settlements, else I should never have thought of looking there, but does not hint at the idea that one should also look up university settlements in order to get full information on this subject. Inasmuch as one generally uses such an encyclopedia to get information on subjects with which he is not familiar, these defects are the more serious and the danger of getting distorted views of subjects the greater if he relies on this source for reference. If space permitted, I could enumerate many other instances, for scarcely in a single case have I found this volume a thoroughly satisfactory or reliable guide.

The content of the articles is, as a rule, likewise unsatisfactory and misleading. There is no idea of proportion or relative importance in the topics treated. This is particularly true of the biographical sketches. Even the leading articles, such as the one on political economy, seem to be constructed on the plan of putting together by a patchwork system anything that could be easily obtained. It is a sort of junk shop of notes from various good sources, but not put together so as to give any adequate view of the theory or history of the subject. In the section on Austrian economists no adequate reference is made to the important work of von Wieser nor to the English form of these theories in the writings of Smart. A Russian correspondent calls my attention to misstatements concerning economics in Russia. He speaks of receiving the "Encyclopedia," and says: "I opened to the article on political economy in Russia and read: 'Among the most prominent (of Russian economists) to-day are Sieber and Alex. von Oettingen.' Sieber is dead long ago and A. v. O. was (now long ago retired; he is seventy-five years old) a clergyman, professor of evangelical theology in University of Dorpat, a German and not an economist at all."

I wish there were another side to this book. I have not searched simply for defects, but would gladly point out excellencies. The title is so attractive, the demand so great among busy clergymen, professional men of all classes and general readers for a good work of this scope that American scholarship should furnish something better, vastly better than Mr. Bliss has been able to do. Money and time will be in most cases worse than wasted for those who get this "Encyclopedia" with any idea of relying on it for purposes of general reference.

SAMUEL McCUNE LINDSAY.

L'Évolution française sous la Troisième République. By PIERRE DE COUBERTIN. Pp. xx, 427. Paris: E. Plon, Nourrit et Cie, 1896.

The Evolution of France under the Third Republic. By BARON PIERRE DE COUBERTIN. Translated from the French by ISABEL F. HAPGOOD. Authorized Edition with special Preface and Additions and Introduction by Dr. ALBERT SHAW. Pp. 471. Price, \$3.00. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., 1897.

The development of France under its republican form of government during the last quarter of a century is a theme of such paramount importance and fascinating possibilities that M. de Coubertin's opening apology for undertaking the task may be looked upon as unnecessary, except as a graceful confession of diffidence. There is